

Message Text

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43

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 FEAE-00 PM-03 /050 W

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R 140851Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5595

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 2208

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM CO

SUBJ: COLOMBIA AND NPT

1. DURING COURSE OF HOUR LONG COURTESY CALL, NEWLY ARRIVED COLOMBIAN RESREP, DR. GUILLERMO OTALORA, EXPRESSED TO US RESREP HIS DISMAY THAT SINCE COLOMBIA HAD NOT YET RATIFIED THE NPT IT COULD NOT REALISTICALLY EXPECT TO BE A RECIPIENT OF THE ANNUAL US GIFT OF SNM OR OF US GIFTS-IN-KIND.
2. ASKED ABOUT REASONS BEHIND LONG DELAY IN RATIFICATION SINCE COLOMBIA SIGNED THE TREATY (NEARLY SEVEN YEARS), OTALORA SAID IN CONFIDENCE THAT IN HIS VIEW INERTIA AND OTHER NATIONAL PRIORITIES IMPEDED HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF NPT; THERE WAS NO SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEM INVOLVED. BEFORE LEAVING BOGOTA, HE SAID, HE HAD URGED PRESIDENT LOPEZ TO TURN HIS ATTENTION TO SUBJECT, BUT HAD RECEIVED NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE. OTALORA OBSERVED THAT ALL COLOMBIA NEEDED WAS GENTLE PUSH FROM OUTSIDE TO FOCUS ITS ATTENTION ON RATIFICATION AND SUGGESTED, AGAIN IN CONFIDENCE, THAT ANTICIPATED MID-1975 VISIT OF LOPEZ TO WASHINGTON WOULD PRESENT US WITH IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PROVIDING THAT PUSH.
3. COMMENT: OTALORA IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH, HAVING SPENT CONFIDENTIAL

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ABOUT 17 YEARS AT PRINCETON. HE STATES THAT HE IS GOOD

PERSONAL FRIEND OF LOPEZ. END COMMENT.LABOWITZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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